

AGGIE BASKETBALL PREVIEW

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On the Cover: Junior QB Ryan Tannehill flashes the Wrecking Crew sign following the upset win over Oklahoma. Photo by Jason McConnell '01.



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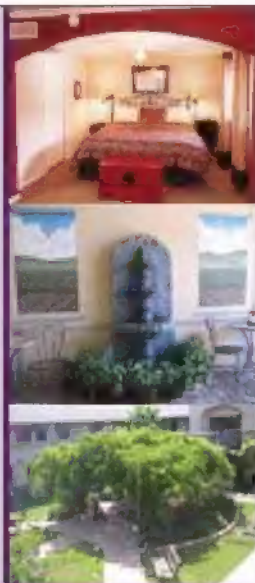
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publisher'snote

Howdy!

Talk about a sight for sore eyes.

The Texas A&M defense had already shown tremendous improvement under new coordinator Tim DeRuyter this season. They had even made some plays here and there that were reminiscent of the Wrecking Crew days. Heck, outside of the Missouri debacle, they kept the team in every game down to the final seconds. That's a lot more than could be said for most A&M defenses over the past eight or more seasons.

So who could have imagined that over 80,000 fans would be yelling "Wrecking Crew...Wrecking Crew...Wrecking Crew..." as Mike Sherman's team celebrated its biggest win and Bob Stoops' 8th-ranked Sooners left the field in defeat? It was a surreal moment for me as I'm sure it was for you and many others.

As I stood on the sideline in the fourth quarter and watched the Wrecking Crew come to life with goal-line stand after goal-line stand, I remembered what football at Kyle Field used to be like. I remembered those magical moments that have been far too rare in recent history. I remembered what it was like to be so proud of the Ags on the field for giving it everything they had and then some, even sometimes in defeat.

I watched as defenders hobbled back and forth from the sideline as if they should have been on crutches, but when the ball was snapped, they looked as if they were logging their first action of the night. I watched as senior All-American Von Miller fought through severe cramps to lay it all on the line for his team. I watched the players' faces light up after they bested the mighty Sooners in every facet of the game. Everything they had worked so hard for was finally paying off.

Needless to say, I'm happy I was there to see it. I've missed several of the greatest victories at Kyle Field in my lifetime for one reason or another. Frankly, I was starting to wonder if I was the problem. I already feel that way about road games, but I'm not publishing my road record. That's a good way to get hate mail.

Of course, the true test for this team now is to keep their momentum and finish the season the same way they finished the Oklahoma game. If they do that, good things will finally come to this football program. And that's something I'm dying to see.

Gig'em Ags!

Brian '01

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snapshot

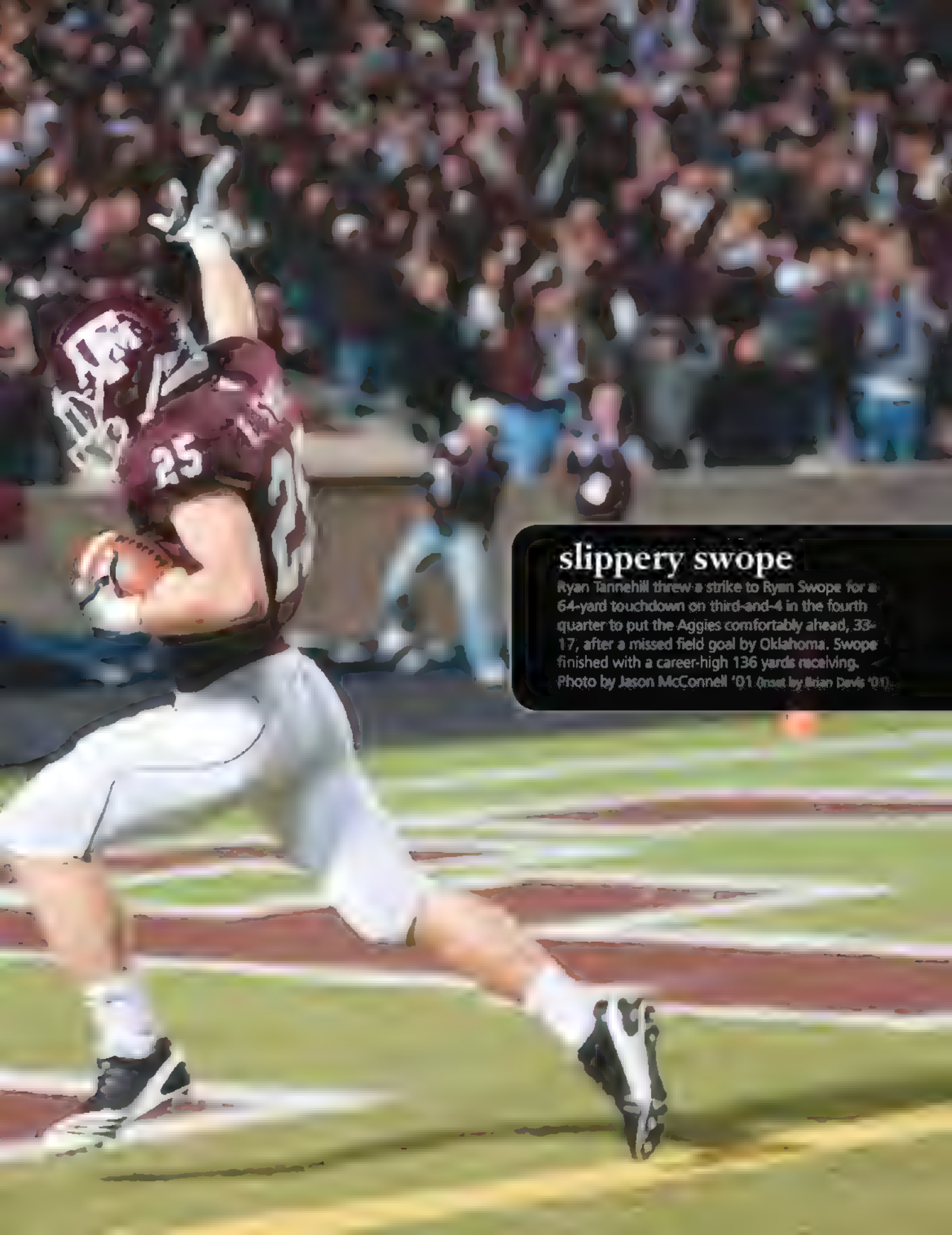
making a stand

The Texas A&M defense stuffs Trey Millard's rush attempt on 4th and goal from the 1-yard line in the 4th quarter. The Aggies stopped Oklahoma on fourth-and-1 from the 1 three times in the game, earning "Wrecking Crew" chants from the 12th Man. Photo by Jason McConnell '01.



snapshot





slippery swope

Ryan Tannehill threw a strike to Ryan Swope for a 64-yard touchdown on third-and-4 in the fourth quarter to put the Aggies comfortably ahead, 33-17, after a missed field goal by Oklahoma. Swope finished with a career-high 136 yards receiving. Photo by Jason McConnell '01 (inset by Brian Davis '01)





wrecking crew

Sophomore linebacker Sean Porter celebrates with first-year defensive coordinator Tim DeRuyter following the Aggies' upset victory over No. 8 Oklahoma. The 12th Man showed their appreciation for the A&M defense with "Wrecking Crew" yells as the celebration commenced on Kyle Field.
Photos by Jason McConnell '01.



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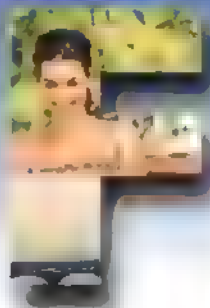
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THE OLD SWITCHEROO

BY JEREMY KSIONDA '04

Due to staff turnover last January, the Aggies got off to a slow start in the 2011 recruiting race. While many of the region's premier programs were handing out offers, Texas A&M was still in evaluation mode and they've been playing catch-up ever since. While the staff is still scouring the state for undiscovered talent, they're also putting the hard-court press on several blue chips who decided to make an early commitment to other schools in hopes that a combination of hard work and an improved product of the field will sway them to the maroon and

white. Several of the current commits decided to switch to the Aggies after originally pledging to other programs, including defensive lineman Shayvion Hatten (TCU), quarterback Johnny Manziel (Oregon) and linebacker Shaun Ward (Maryland).

Here, we take a closer look at a few more of those who haven't completely pulled the plug to the lines of communication with the A&M coaching staff. Though the odds are stacked against a switch, it's worth keeping a close watch on these targets between now and signing day... just in case.



After committing to the Cowboys in April, Sims has been shopping his services ever since, and has reached out to the Aggies on a number of occasions, even going so far as to make a visit to Kyle Field in September. Sims would like to play at the next level with teammate and cousin Ronnell, but hasn't been able to find a program willing to make them a package deal including the Aggies.



It's a rare feat to pluck a blue chip recruit from the hands of Mack Brown, but if the Longhorns continue down their path of destruction, the Aggies could manage to pull it off. Edmonds, the state's top linebacker prospect, is friends and teammates with A&M commit Shayvion Hatten, so it's possible that he could manage to sneak in a visit to Aggie land if the opportunity presents itself between now and signing day.



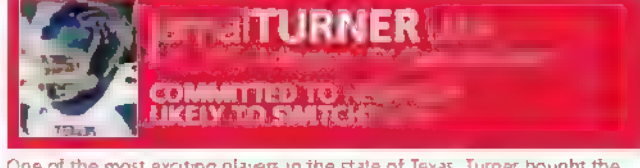
Williams showed a strong early interest in the Aggies and was even considered an A&M lean. After the Ags moved on other prospects, Williams decided to look elsewhere and committed to the Red Raiders. A struggling Tech program could cause Williams to look elsewhere, but the odds are pretty slim.



After a strong performance during his senior season, the Klein product's stock is on the rise. It won't be easy to steal one from the Utes, but the proximity to home could be a big factor if the Ags decide to make a serious push down the stretch, which is looking more and more likely.



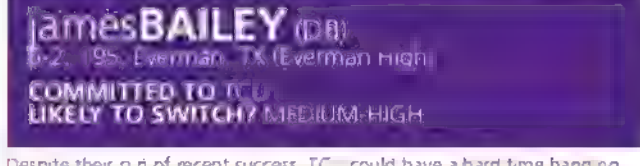
Edwards committed to Tommy Tuberville and the Red Raiders in the spring of '09, prior to receiving an Aggie offer. Though he hasn't publicly admitted to being a "soft" commit, his actions speak louder than words. Edwards took in the A&M/Tech contest at Kyle Field and was able to witness both the prolific Aggie offense and the sputtering Tech offense (by Tech standards) first hand. Edwards will be one to watch closely down the stretch.



One of the most exciting players in the state of Texas, Turner bought the Nebraska sales pitch hook, line and sinker when they told him he would play quarterback for the Big Red. Considering current Cornhusker signal caller Taylor Martinez is only a freshman, Turner could begin to rethink his decision. Though he and teammate Kameel Jackson remain in contact with the Aggies, they're both considered longshots to wind up in maroon and white.



The rangy, speedy Arlington standout was one of the first members of the Sooners' 2011 class, so the odds of him going through with a switch are slim. Still, he's maintained a relationship with A&M defensive backs coach Chuck McMillian even to this day, so he's at least worth keeping an eye on.



Despite their run of recent success, TCU could have a hard time hanging on to Bailey if the Aggies decide to make a late push for his services. The Ags are seriously considering adding one or possibly two more defensive backs to this year's recruiting haul, and Bailey could be one to watch heading into the final stretch of the season. **NT**





Times A&M senior Rachel Shipley scored on a penalty kick in the first period to give the No. 6 Aggie soccer team their 11th Big 12 Championship with a 1-0 win over No. 5 Oklahoma State. "After two years, I'm glad that the girls won our trophy back," head coach B. Guardiola said. "It feels good. It's a big relief. Sometimes when you win championships, you think you're always going to win them, and when you're not the champions, you wonder if you're ever going to do it again." Times A&M will play North Dakota State in the first round of the Aggie* 16th consecutive NCAA Tournament on Nov. 12 in Minneapolis, Minn.





(volleyball) A storm was brewing during the heart of Big 12 play just before Corbett's team in a deep hole in the conference race. However, the team responded by winning three of their next four matches climbing into a tie for sixth place in the Big 12. The Ags will need some huge wins down the stretch to have a shot at returning to the NCAA Tournament. (swimming and diving) Led by senior diver Blake Patrick, the women's swimming and diving team opened their season with a dominant victory over Houston and followed with a close loss to rival Texas (equestrian) The 2nd-ranked equestrian team began the season 4-0, with victories over No. 4 Oklahoma State and No. 2 Auburn. (tennis) The terrific tandem of seniors Jeff Dadamo and Austin Krajick (bottom right) pulled off what is believed to be the first national championship for Texas A&M men's tennis at the 2009 ITA's National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships.



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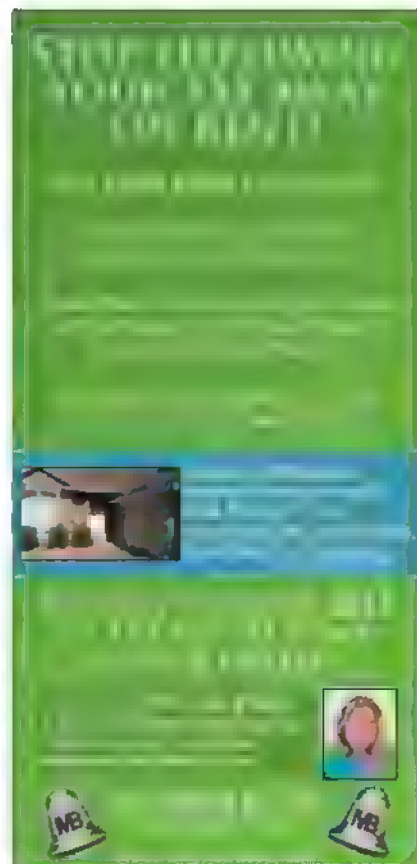
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COURT CAPTAINS

Sydney Colson and Dash Harris are ready to lead Aggie basketball to new heights

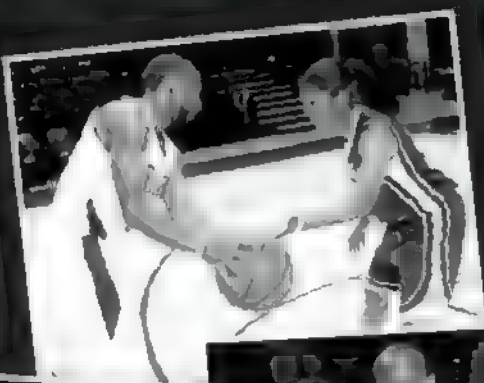
BY BRIAN DAVIS '01



THE COLSON FILE

Sydney Justine Colson Senior (Sociology Major)
Height: 5-8 **Position:** Guard
Born: August 6, 1988 **Hometown:** Houston, TX
High School: Westside High School (Houston, TX)
Parents: Simmie and Stephanie Colson

Pro basketball player Kobe Bryant
 Pro team Atlanta Hawks
 Fast food McDonald's
 Restaurant Outback
 Person you'd like to meet: Natalie Maines from the Dixie Chicks
 Shoe size: 10 (women's)
 Biggest win at A&M: Elite Eight
 Toughest loss: Elite Eight
 Halloween costume: Vampire
 Song most played on your iPod: We Are Family
 Movie The Hot Chick
 TV show Desperate Housewives
 Best shot in HORSE: 3-point shot
 Who would win in one-on-one: Me
 Where to play (besides A&M): Elite Eight
 Team goal: Elite Eight or further
 Personal goal: Win the Elite Eight

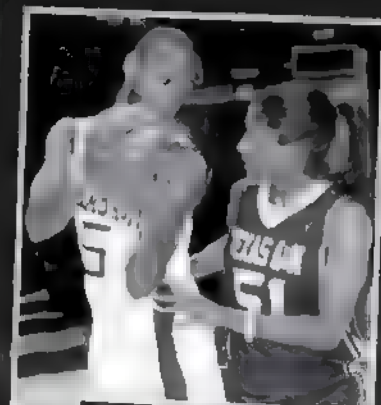




THE HARRIS FILE

Dashan Karon Harris Junior (Ag Leadership Major)
Height: 6-1 **Position:** Guard
Born: September 28, 1988 **Hometown:** Los Angeles, CA
High School: Monteverde Academy (Monteverde, FL)
Parents: Gessen and Connell Harris

Pro basketball player: LeBron James
Pro team: Miami Heat
Fast food: In N Out Burger
Restaurant: Roscoe's Chicken N Waffles
Person you'd like to meet: Oprah
Shoe size: _____
Biggest win at A&M: Not a game, but a season
Toughest loss: Second round of the NCAA tournament
Halloween costume: Nicki Minaj
Song most played on your iPod: Kanye West - Stronger
Movie: Love and Basketball
TV show: Sportscenter
Best shot in HORSE: A 3-point shot
Who would win in one-on-one: LeBron James
Where to play (besides A&M): Anywhere
Team goal: Win the championship
Personal goal: Be the best player in the world





"A lot of people are doubting us after we lost Sloan, Roland and BD, so we're ready to prove people wrong and show that this team can play."

— SENIOR NATHAN WALKUP

MEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Mark Turgeon's young team is ready to show they can carry the torch from the winningest class in school history

BY JASON MCCONNELL '01

Going into the 2010-2011 season, Mark Turgeon has some big holes to fill. Outgoing seniors Donald Sloan, Bryan Davis and Derrick Roland were a part of the winningest class in Aggie basketball history and advanced to four straight NCAA Tournaments. Not to mention the tragic loss of A&M signee Tobi Oyedeji in May.

To help fill those holes, Turgeon and company signed three versatile players out of high school who are all 6-8 or taller. Each one brings something different to the table. Most likely to see action early is Kourtney Roberson. He is still making strides defensively, and has a great feel on offense. Keith Davis will be a force down low who should see a lot of time off the bench. Meanwhile, Daniel Alexander will be a tremendous offensive weapon once he develops and fills out a little more.

In addition to the freshmen, Turgeon also got some experience in junior transfer Elston Turner from Washington. He will make an impact in practice and from the bench this season as he sits out the NCAA-mandated one year.

Senior B.J. Holmes and junior Dash Harris are the leaders in the backcourt. Their performance will likely dictate the success of the Aggies' season. There's not a lot of depth behind them, but rising sophomore Naji Hibbert and veteran seniors Andrew Darko and Derrek Lewis are quality players who will log significant minutes.

The key players in the frontcourt are junior David Loubeau and sophomores Ray Turner and Khrist Middleton. Now in his third year in Aggieland, this is poised to be Loubeau's breakout season with Davis departing. Senior Nathan Walkup will also play a lot of minutes and could be a starter because of his experience and versatility.

The biggest addition off the court was Aggie basketball legend Dominique Kirk as a graduate assistant. Kirk brings invaluable experience and knowledge of the game to this young team. **■**



#2 DERREK LEWIS (SR), G

6-5, Tulsa (OK)

Times letter guard who saw action in 15 games last year, averaging 2 points per game.



#10 DAVID LOUBEAU (JR), F

6-8, Miami (FL)

Named Big 12 Most Improved Player by Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Will have to fill big shoes to fill for Bryan Davis.



#22 KHRIS MIDDLETON (SO), F

6-7, North Charleston (SC)

Started in all 26 Big 12 games last year, averaging 7 points and almost 4 rebounds per game.



#32 KOURTNEY ROBERTSON (FR), F

6-9, Arcadia (LA)

Top 100 prospect in the country by Rivals who will likely see action soon. Can score in a variety of ways.



#31 ELSTON TURNER (JR), G

6-4, Missouri City (TX)

Transferred from Washington State to Texas A&M in 2007, with a 38% three-point percentage. Will sit the 2010 season.



#35 RAY TURNER (SO), F

6-8, Houston (TX)

Appeared in 20 games after sitting until mid-December. Changed to No. 35 this season for Tobi Oyedeyi.



#45 NATHAN WALKUP (SR), F

6-7, Houston (TX)

Played in all 34 games last year averaging 5 points and 3 rebounds per game.



#15 DANIEL ALEXANDER (FR), F

6-8, Dripping Springs (TX)

Top 100 prospect in the country by Rivals. Good outside shooter but needs to add size and strength.



#12 ANDREW DARKO (SR), G

6-7, Conroe (TX)

Was awarded a scholarship for his senior year.



#4 KEITH DAVIS (FR), C

6-9, Mesquite (TX)

Lost Dallas Mavericks title his junior year. Big player with good defensive skills.



#5 DASH HARRIS (JR), G

6-1, Los Angeles (CA)

Led the team in assists, steals and assist-to-turnover ratio. Bouncing back from wrist surgery in June.



#23 NAJI HIBBERT (SO), G

6-6, Baltimore (MD)

Came off the bench in every game last year, with a career-high 11 points against Prairie View.



#11 B.J. HOLMES (SR), G

6-11, Houston (TX)

Named to the Big 12 All-Reserve Team and is No. 1 in the A&M record book for career 3-point percentage.





WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW

The sky is the limit for Gary Blair's talented and experienced team in 2010-11

BY JASON MCCONNELL

Gary Blair has the 8th-ranked Aggies locked and loaded for the 2010-2011 season. Coming off a second round loss in last year's NCAA Tournament, the Aggies have a tough schedule and will no doubt have a target on their backs in every match-up.

Coach Blair added two talented freshmen to the roster, most notably center Karla Gilbert, upgrading the size and depth to an already talented squad. Blair also welcomed the transfer of Kelsey Bone from South Carolina in the offseason. Bone was the top recruit on the Aggies wish list in 2009, but ultimately chose to sign with the Gamecocks. After earning several All-SEC honors as a true freshman, she decided to transfer to A&M. Bone isn't eligible to play this season, but will make a huge impact in practice by teaching and challenging Gilbert.

The Aggies are led by seniors Danielle Adams and Sydney Colson. Adams will score from anywhere on the floor and Colson's high energy style sets the tempo of the team. Senior Maryann Baker and juniors Tyra White and Sydney Carter are expected to make a big impact on the court as well. The toughest challenge will be replacing the scoring of Tanisha Smith.

With such a talented group, the Aggies are looking forward to some high level competition in the Big 12. Coach Blair's squad was picked to finish second in the league behind Baylor. The Aggies are full aware that the road to winning another conference championship goes through Waco as long as Britney Griner is wearing green and gold.

"This program has arrived on the national scene. Now the expectations are high and excuses won't work. We expect to win and we expect to be in big games. When you are ranked that high, you are supposed to find a way to keep winning. And I like the pressure."

HEAD COACH GARY BLAIR

**#23 DANIELLE ADAMS (SR), F/C**

6-1, Kansas City (MO)

2010 All-American Honorable Mention and Big Conference Newcomer of the Year

**#40 KELSEY ASSARIAN (JR), F**

6-1, Naples (FL)

and 3 rebounds in 32 games last year.

**#15 MARYANN BAKER (SR), C**

5-10, Dallas (TX)

2010 Academic All-Big 12 Academic Award and "Team Academic Award" for the second straight year.

**#5 KRISTI BELLOCK (SO), F/C**

6-1, St. Rose (LA)

of Louisiana. Coming off an ACL injury in May.

**#3 KELSEY BONE (SO), C**

6-4, Houston (TX)

Rated the No. 1 center prospect in the country. Will be mentoring Karla Gilbert as she sits out the year.

**#4 SYDNEY CARTER (JR), G**

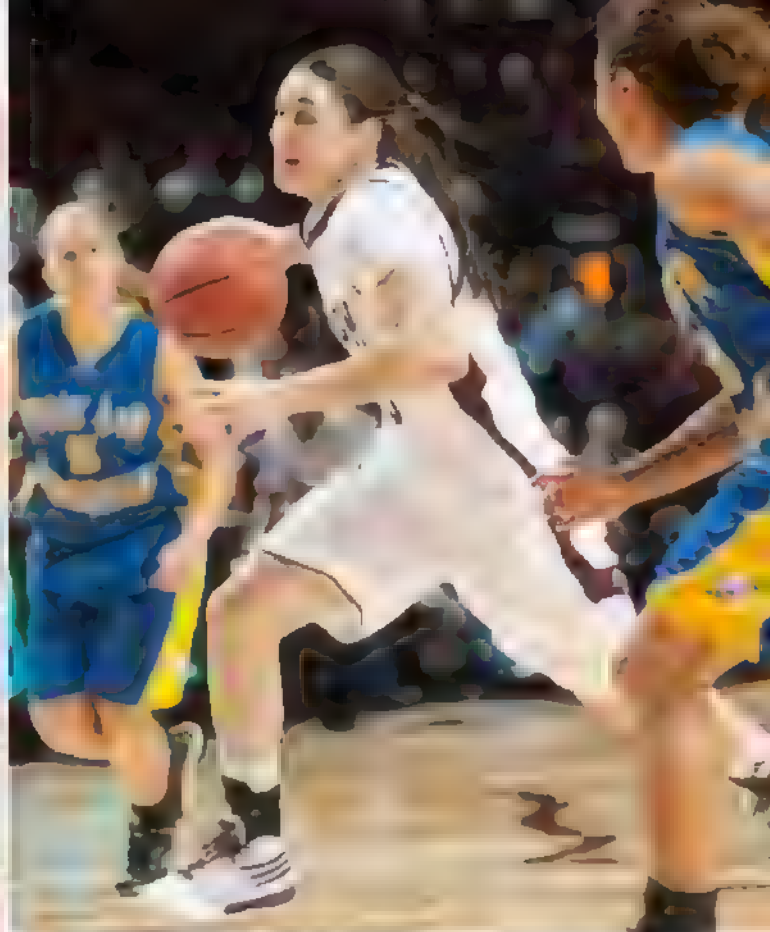
5-6, DeSoto (TX)

2010 All-Big 12 Honorable Mention and team captain. Impressive 2.15 assist-to-turnover ratio last season.

**#25 SKYLAR COLLINS (JR), C**

5-9, Cedar Hill (TX)

2010 Academic All-Big 12 Academic Award. Averaging 10 points, 10 points, 2 blocks, 2 steals and 2 assists.

**#51 SYDNEY COLSON (SR), G**

5-8, Houston (TX)

A healthy Sydney is one of the best point guards in the country. — Gary Blair

**#21 ADAORA EFONU (JR), F**

6-1, Houston (TX)

Co-captain of the team averaging 9 points and 5 rebounds per game in 2010.

**#34 KARLA GILBERT (FR), C**

6-5, College Station (TX)

McDonald's All-American, No. 9 overall prospect in 2010. Will see playing time early.

**#14 KRISTEN GRANT (FR), G**

5-8, Arlington (TX)

No. 30 overall prospect. Shooting guard by ESPN.

**#32 ADRIENNE PRATCHER (SO), G**

5-7, Memphis (TN)

Leadership skills for a young player.

**#20 TYRA WHITE (JR), G**

6-0, Kansas City (MO)

Played in all 34 games last season averaging 11.1 points and 3.4 rebounds per game.

**#12 CIERRA WINDHAM (SO), F/G**

6-0, Corona (CA)

Best shooter on the team in 2010, shooting .527 from the floor and .384 from behind the arc.



TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [GAME 5: ARKANSAS 24, AGS 17]

► PHOTO OF THE GAME

Arkansas' Jordan Davis (11) is tackled by the Texas A&M defense during the game. Davis is a senior defensive end from Dallas, Texas, and is a first-team All-American. He is being tackled by Texas A&M defensive end Steven Campbell (84) and defensive tackle Aaron Griffin (55). The game is being played at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

THREE QUESTIONS FOR SAFETY STEVEN CAMPBELL

What is your role before the snap?

As a strong safety, my role is to be the last line of defense. I have to be able to read the quarterback and be able to cover the running back and tight end.

What has led to the improvement on defense this season?

It's a combination of things. We have a great coaching staff and a great defense. We're playing hard and have a lot of talent.

What has Coach McMillian meant to you?

Coach McMillian is like a big brother and father. He's been there for me since I was a kid. He's helped me through everything and he's always been there for me. I love him and I respect him.



TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [GAME 6: MISSOURI 30, AGS 9]



◀ PHOTO OF THE GAME

Arkansas' Jordan Davis (11) is tackled by the Texas A&M defense during the game. Davis is a senior defensive end from Dallas, Texas, and is a first-team All-American. He is being tackled by Texas A&M defensive end Steven Campbell (84) and defensive tackle Aaron Griffin (55). The game is being played at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

THREE QUESTIONS FOR CORNERBACK CORYELL JUDIE

Going back to before last season, when did you realize you were injured and wouldn't be able to play?

I knew there was something wrong with my knee. I was having trouble running and I was having trouble jumping. I was having trouble with everything. I was having trouble with everything. I was having trouble with everything.

What were the benefits to sitting out last year?

I was able to rest my knee and I was able to get back in shape. I was able to get back in shape. I was able to get back in shape.

How would you describe the feeling when you went out on Kyle Field for your first play?

It was a great feeling. I was able to play on Kyle Field. I was able to play on Kyle Field. I was able to play on Kyle Field.

TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [GAME 7: AGS 45, KANSAS 10]



▲ PHOTO OF THE GAME

When Aggie quarterback Matt Webb (17) threw the ball, Harris (22) was in the air, trying to catch it. He was tackled by Kansas player number 81. The photo was taken by a fan in the stands.

TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [GAME 8: **AGS 45**, TEXAS TECH 27]



◀ PHOTO OF THE GAME

Fuller, who was drafted by the Redskins in 1974, was released by the team after two seasons. He then signed with the Raiders, where he caught two of Tannehill's 11 completions and finished with 11 receptions for 105 yards and one touchdown. Fuller was released by the Raiders after the season.

Q&A WITH OFFENSIVE LINEMAN BRIAN THOMAS

How has the offensive line progressed from where you began the season?

And in beginning we were very inexperienced. We started off a little rough, but I think we got a lot better and we had a good time.

How close were you to playing as a true freshman in 2008?

was the back pick guard for the coaches. I was about 18 years old, and he said I was going to be redshirted. Until then it was just a game.

You started at right tackle and then moved to left guard when Evan Eike was injured. What are the challenges of playing different positions on the line?

I've been watching as you are my friend and
you are pretty much the same person as
I am. I am the same person as I am. I am the same person as I am.

What's the biggest challenge of playing guard?

Going from blocking the smaller faster q_{small}

When did you know you wanted to be a football player?

Mr. ... fourth ...
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... to play

How have the two freshmen tackles progressed this season?

Luke Joecket came in late.

What does it mean to have the quarterback come and talk to the offensive line on the sideline?

... (3) ...

Do they take you guys out for a steak dinner or anything like that?

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [GAME 9: AGS 33, OKLAHOMA 19]



▲ PHOTO OF THE GAME

After a long and hard day of practice, the Aggies were finally able to get some rest. The team was very tired, but they were determined to win. The game was very close, but the Aggies were able to pull it out in the end. The fans were very excited, and the players were very proud. The game was a great success for the Aggies, and they were very happy to win. The fans were very happy, and the players were very proud. The game was a great success for the Aggies, and they were very happy to win.



TEXAS A&M FOOTBALL [NOVEMBER GAME PREVIEWS]

Baylor Bears

2010-11 Big 12 Season

WHEN

Saturday, November 13 at 6 pm (FSN)

WHERE

Waco, TX (Floyd Casey Stadium)

SERIES RECORD

A&M 66, Baylor 31 (9 Ties)



KEY QUESTION

Can the Aggies break their trend of poor performances in Waco?

WHAT TO EXPECT

Many thought that Baylor would be playing for a bowl berth against the Aggies. As it turns out, they're playing for much more: Pride, bragging rights and the opportunity to emerge as one of the Big 12 South's best are on the line in this bitter rivalry.

PLAYER TO WATCH

QB Robert Griffin, III (SO) – The sophomore signal caller is putting up career numbers in his third season at Baylor, and has his team riding high after becoming bowl eligible for the first time since 1994 as well as defeating Texas in Austin.

FUN FACT

Eight of the top ten largest crowds in Floyd Casey Stadium history have been when Texas A&M was in town, including the top game.

Nebraska Cornhuskers

2010-11 Big 12 Season

WHEN

Saturday, November 20 at 7 pm (TV TBA)

WHERE

Lincoln, TX (Kyle Field)

SERIES RECORD

Nebraska 10, A&M 3



KEY QUESTION

With Nebraska departing for the Big 10 at season's end, will the Aggies send the Big Red off in fashion?

WHAT TO EXPECT

Nebraska's first trip to College Station in 1998 saw the No. 18 Aggies upset the No. 2 Huskers in a monumental victory before A&M's Big 12 title run. Kyle Field will be rocking again in possibly the Huskers' last visit, giving the Ags a chance to repeat history.

PLAYER TO WATCH

QB Taylor Martinez (FR) – Nebraska got off to a strong start this season behind Martinez's legs. If the freshman phenom can get back to form (and stay healthy), the Huskers are tough to beat.

FUN FACT

Assistant Zac Taylor led the Huskers to a victory in their last game at Kyle Field.

Texas Longhorns

WHEN

Thursday, November 25 at 7 pm (ESPN)

WHERE

Austin, TX (DKR Texas Memorial Stadium)

SERIES RECORD

Texas 75, A&M 36 (5 Ties)



KEY QUESTION

How far will the Longhorns have fallen by the time A&M comes to town?

WHAT TO EXPECT

There's a good chance the Longhorns will drop their fourth game at home this season when they face the Aggies. Unless of course they've already done so beforehand.

PLAYER TO WATCH

DE Sam Acho (SR) – Acho is one of the lone bright spots for Texas this season. The Dallas native was named a Lombard Award semifinalist in October after posting five sacks, nine tackles for loss and two forced fumbles.

FUN FACT

The Longhorns could be the first team to not qualify for a bowl one year after playing for the BCS national championship.

Big 12 Bowl Agreements

2010-11 Big 12 Bowls in Selection Order

BOWL	WHEN	WHERE	TV	WHO
Alamo Bowl	Jan. 1 7:30 pm	Glendale, AZ	ESPN	BCS At Large
Chick-fil-A Bowl	Jan. 7 7 pm	Arlington, TX	FOX	SEC
Hyundai Sun Life Bowl	Dec. 29 8:15 pm	San Antonio, TX	ESPN	Pac 10
Maroon Bowl	Dec. 29 9 pm	Tempe, AZ	ESPN	Big Ten
Bridgepoint Education Sun Life Bowl	Dec. 30 9 pm	San Diego, CA	ESPN	Pac 10
Texas Bowl	Dec. 29 5 pm	Houston, TX	ESPN	Big Ten
New Era Paper Bowl	Dec. 30 2:20 pm	New York, NY	ESPN	Big East
Las Vegas Bowl	Jan. 1 11 am	Las Vegas, NV	ESPN	Big Ten ACC

BIG 12 BOWL ELIGIBLE TEAMS (AS OF NOV. 10)

Texas A&M	Baylor	Kansas State
Oklahoma State	Nebraska	West Virginia
Oklahoma	TCU	Utah

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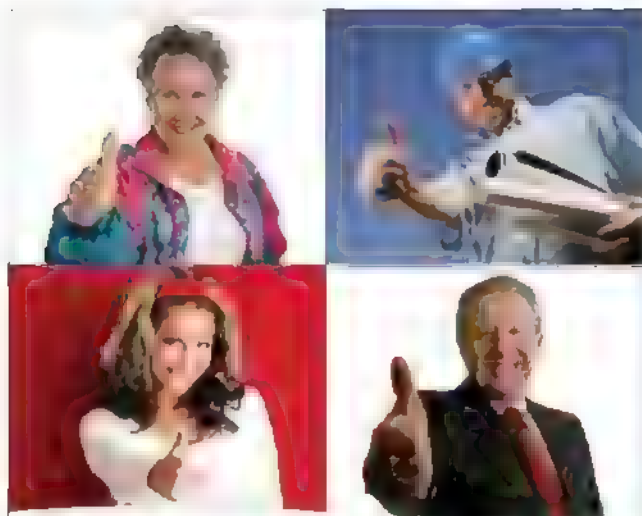
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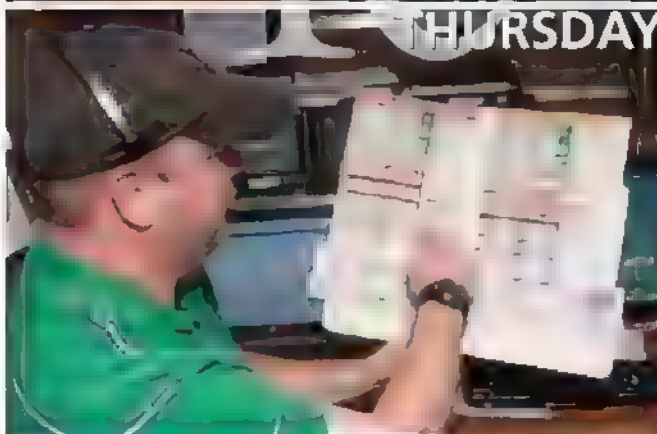
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THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT ESPN



THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

BY BRIAN DAVIS '01



For the first time since 1995, the Texas A&M football team will play on more than one Thursday in a season. The Aggies first Thursday night match-up in 2010 was a thriller in Stillwater back in September. In a back and forth game, the Cowboys emerged victorious on a field goal as time expired. On

Thanksgiving, the Ags will travel to Austin for their second opportunity to play on ESPN Thursday Night Football.

A couple of hours before the game kicked off in Oklahoma, the AI staff was given a behind the scenes tour of what it takes to produce ESPN Thursday Night Football.

ALL BASES COVERED

Typically, Thursday Night Football has eleven cameras in the field and a few more in the end zone.

EYE IN THE SKY

ESPN uses the stadium's high-definition cameras to provide a wide-angle view of the game. The cameras are mounted on a crane that can move in and out of the field of play.

TV TRUCKS

There are several trucks in the field, each with its own set of cameras and equipment.

COOL JOB

The job of a camera operator is to capture the best possible shot of the game. They have to be able to move quickly and accurately to follow the action.

THE ANNOUNCERS

The announcers provide commentary on the game, including play-by-play and analysis. They are responsible for keeping the audience informed and entertained.

rightly as sideline reporter. A sideline reporter is responsible for providing updates on the game from the field.

The Aggies' first Thursday night game was a thriller. The game was played in Stillwater, Texas, and the Aggies emerged victorious. The game was a great example of the quality of ESPN's coverage.

THE CREW

The crew consists of many people, including camera operators, producers, and technicians. They all work together to ensure that the game is broadcasted smoothly.

THE SETUP

The setup for the game is a complex process. It involves coordinating all the equipment and personnel to ensure that the game is broadcasted without any interruptions.

THE COACHES

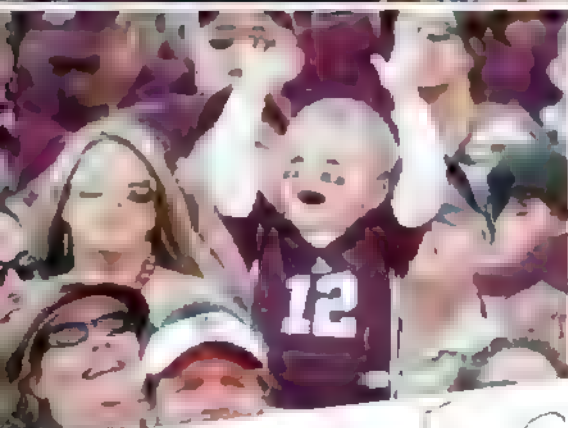
The coaches are responsible for leading their teams during the game. They provide strategy and motivation to their players. The coaches' actions can greatly influence the outcome of the game.

ON SCREEN GRAPHICS

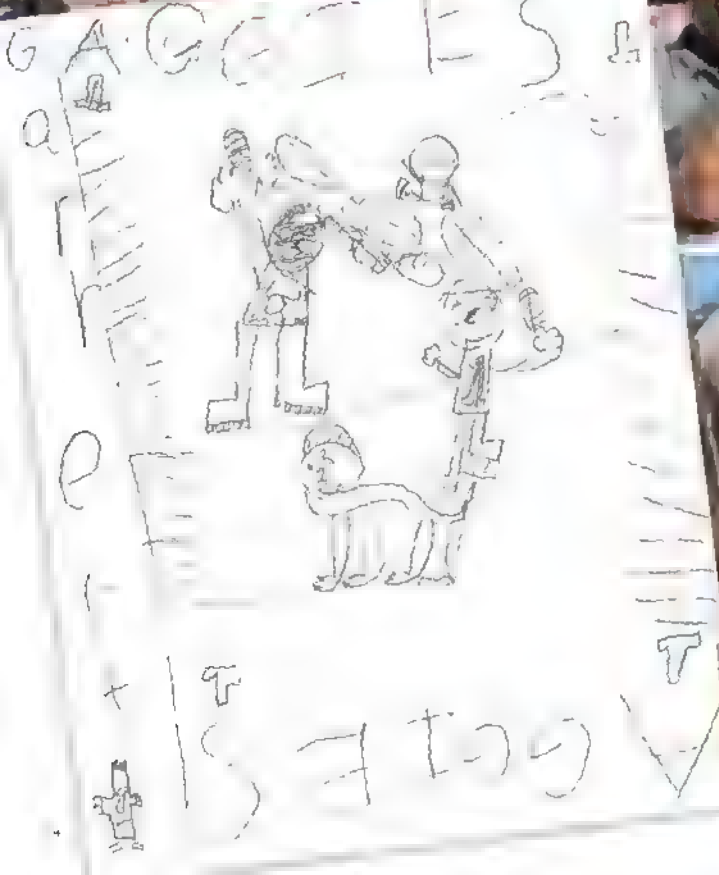
On screen graphics are used to provide additional information to the audience. This includes player statistics, game time, and other relevant data. They help to enhance the viewer's understanding of the game.

THE SHOW'S BACKBONE

The show's backbone is the game itself. It is the central focus of the broadcast, and all other elements are designed to support it. The game is what keeps the audience watching.



(above) A statue of the legendary John David Crow was dedicated in front of the Bright Football Complex in October, and the Aggies' lone Heisman winner was recognized before the Missouri game as honorary captain. (left) This young Aggie fan had a lot of good things to yell about during the victory over Texas Tech at Kyle Field. (below) There were many special guests in attendance at the Texas Tech football game including Anthony Taylor (left) and Dean Berry (right) from the 1991 Southwest Conference Championship football team, San Antonio Spurs legend David Robinson (middle), and former President George H.W. Bush, aka, No. 41. (bottom left) The GZ Hall of Fame statue in the October issue inspired Al subscriber Garrett (age 3) to draw a picture of his favorite players, David Johnson and Jeff Fuller, following the Arkansas game. His father, Rick, '96, assumed the creature on the field was Reveille, but Garrett corrected him. "No dad. That's a dinosaur."





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AGGIE HOCKEY

BY BRIAN DAVIS '01

While Texas A&M Ice Hockey didn't become an official sport club until 2001, hockey originated in Aggieland in 1982 when a group of students put together a team and played random games for fun rather than for competition. But when that group of students graduated, the team departed as well.

That was long before there was much public interest for the sport in Texas. That interest blossomed in the 1990s with the arrival of the Dallas Stars NHL franchise and the return of the Houston Aeros. In 1997, another group of students put together an Aggie team and started playing other universities. This time the club stayed together, paving the way for today's team.

Competing in the Division II West Region of the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA), the A&M program has steadily improved each year. That culminated in 2009 as the Aggies finished the regular season with a No. 10 ranking in the West Region, earning a trip to the Regional Playoffs for the first time in program history. They were the first team from Texas to ever make the Regional Playoffs.

Nathan Banks '11 joined the team as a freshman in 2007 and has been an integral part of the best seasons in the program's history.

"One of the happiest moments of my college career was when I saw my name posted on the roster after the last tryout my freshman year," Banks said.

Now a senior and club president, Banks is the leader of arguably the most talented Texas A&M team to ever take the ice. The 2010-11 Aggies welcomed twelve new members this season even though they lost less than half of that to graduation last fall.

"The best part about playing is representing A&M," Banks said. "It is a huge honor to be able to wear that jersey as many are turned away each season."

The team has a total of five offensive lines and four defensive lines, but only four and three, respectively, make the roster for each game.

"It's usually different players each game, too," Banks added, "since the new kids are neck and neck in getting the last open spots each week on the roster."

During the game, each line gets about the same playing time this season, where in the past the top two or three lines got the majority.

"My line with Aubrey Berkowitz and Dustin Roark focuses on agitating and wearing down the other team," Banks said.

Each line has different styles of play with goal scorers and playmakers. While they all have their different specialties, the lines do have one common goal – to win.

Last season, the team was happy just to make it to the playoffs as the 10th team out of 10 spots, and was eliminated in the opening round by Eastern Washington. This season, the goal is to make it back at a higher ranking, giving the Aggies a better opportunity to do more damage in the postseason.

"It's going to take the same hard work, if not more, to get there," Banks admitted. "Since we made regional playoffs last year, we are the team to beat by those who didn't."

A third of the way through the 2010-11 season, the Aggies are 10-3 and near the top of the standings in the West Region. The next home games are Nov. 19 and 20 against UTSA. It is military weekend, so Corps of Cadets members and anyone in uniform can attend for only \$3. Can't catch the team in College Station? The Aggies battle the Longhorns in Austin on Nov. 27 for the "Pride of Texas Cup" and Arkansas at the American Airlines Center on Jan. 15 either before or after the Dallas Stars game. Visit www.tamicehockey.com for the full schedule. ■

GLEN'S GREAT EIGHT

3. Aggie Bonfire, 1989

"I used to shoot Bonfire every year starting in the late 70's. I finally slowed down a bit around 1993. I think this was the best burn I ever saw. I never went to the 1999 site. Just didn't want to see the devastation." – Glen Johnson

In each issue of Volume 5 of AI, we are excited to share eight of Glen Johnson's most memorable moments from photographing all things Aggie. Glen has been the official photographer of Texas A&M Athletics since 1981. Special thanks to Glen for his contribution.

PHOTO BY GLEN JOHNSON





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